

Giovanni's Journal

A publication of Texas State Representative Giovanni Capriglione

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A Note On The Lottery Committee

Written for, and printed in The Texas Blaze.

It has been a pleasure serving on Legislative Committee to Review the Texas Lottery and Charitable Bingo in Texas. With passage of House Bill 2197, the 83rd Legislature directed the Speaker of the House and the Lieutenant Governor to appoint five members from each chamber to the Legislative Committee to Review the Texas Lottery and Charitable Bingo in Texas ("the Committee"). The Committee was charged with studying the impact of eliminating the Texas Lottery and considering how to maximize the distributions of charitable bingo in Texas. The Committee's full final report can be found here: www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/senate/commit/c895/downloads/c895.InterimReport84th.pdf.

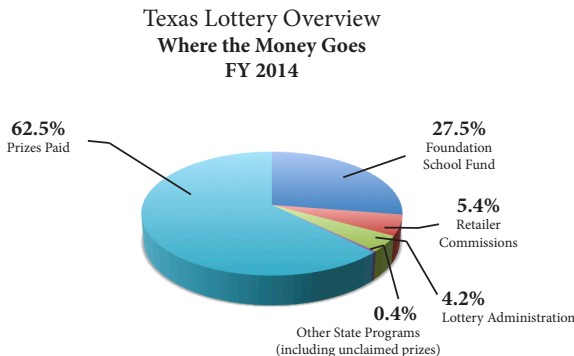
Since its authorization by Texas voters in 1991, the Texas Lottery has generated nearly \$23 billion for the state, with over \$17 billion going to the Foundation School Fund over the past 17 years. For many years, the Texas Lottery has transferred more than \$1 billion to the Foundation School Fund, and in 2014 the Texas Lottery contributed a record \$1.2 billion to the Fund.

The most common question I receive about the lottery goes something like this, "When the Lottery first started we heard that it would pay for all public education costs." In its first year of operation the lottery provided the equivalent of 10 school days of funding. Today, because of lower play volume and inflationary increases in

the cost of public education, the lottery pays for approximately 3 school days of funding.

The second most frequent question about the lottery is, "Does all of the money from the lottery go towards public education?" For each dollar lottery ticket sold, 62.5% goes to the winning prize pool, 27.5% goes to the Foundation School Fund, 4.2% goes to the administration of the lottery, and

5.4% goes to retailer commission. The remaining 0.4% goes to other state programs, including the Texas Veterans Commission. So the short answer is, almost all of the money raised by the



State by the lottery goes to public education.

Our review also shed some light on interesting statistics. In 2013, 25.9 percent of players had a yearly income of less than \$30,000 per year, 35.6 percent had a yearly income between \$30,000 and \$74,999, and 38.5 percent had a yearly income above \$75,000. Roughly 70 percent of players had at least some college education and 45.5 percent held a college degree, whereas less than 4 percent had not completed high school. This survey aside, our district, House District 98, in NE Tarrant County, has one of the highest per capita incomes in the state, and also one of the least amount of lottery dollars played per capita. As an example, this means that the average House District 98 resident plays 9x less of her income than a resident of downtown Houston.

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Keller High School To Host Student Council Conference

On November 17, Giovanni spoke to members of Keller High School's Student Council. Keller High School is slated to host the Student Council High School Annual Conference

for high schools across Texas on April 10-12, 2015. However, student council members must raise \$50,000 to host the event.

During the meeting, Giovanni explained the process of fundraising for



set goals for yourself," he added. He also highlighted the importance of a leadership role and gave advice to students. He told the students of his experiences in leadership, and even gave examples of challenges state representatives face

large groups, and how to raise large sums of money. "The key to good fundraising is knowing your constituents," said Giovanni. "You have to focus on fundraising in increments, and

when listening to bills on the House floor, such as communicating effectively with 149 representatives, and forming coalitions to pass legislation.

In order to raise funding to host the conference, KHS' Student Council is hosting an informational event on December 18 at Christ's Haven for Children Center. The event is 6-8 p.m., and funds raised will go to the operational costs to host the state convention. Students are inviting all local officials and the public to listen to their presentation about the statewide convention. For more information, visit www.kellerisd.net.

December Events in District 98

- **Dec. 9. Southlake's Expanding Mobility SPIN Town Hall Forum 6-8:30 p.m. in the Southlake Town Hall.** Join the City of Southlake for a town hall and open forum discussion regarding transportation issues in and around Southlake. Open house will be 6-7 p.m. in the lobby, and the panel discussion begins at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Panelists include Rep. Capriglione, and representatives from TxDOT, Southlake Public Works, and the Tarrant County Commissioner. Submit your questions to www.cityofsouthlake.com/expandingmobility.
- **Dec. 5. Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Breakfast** at 7:30 a.m. at the DFW Marriott Hotel & Golf Club at Champions Circle. Hear legislators talk about what's coming up in the 84th Legislative Session. Cost is \$35 for members, and \$45 for non-members. Register at nemetroportchamber.org.
- **Dec. 5. Keller's Holly Days** at Keller Town Center at 6 p.m. Come join the holiday spirit at Keller Town Center. Enjoy The Very Merry Light Parade, lighting of the Christmas tree, Santa's arrival, stage entertainment, a two-lane snow hill, arts and crafts, bounce houses, concessions and activities at the Jingle Bell Zone.
- **Dec. 6. Christmas in Haslet:** Santa will visit your neighborhood to collect canned goods from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The Haslet Library will host the Jingle and Jolly's Christmas Show at 1 p.m. The Tree Lighting will be at the Haslet Fire Department from 6-8 p.m.
- **Dec. 6. Keller's Breakfast with Santa** from 8-10 a.m. Experience real snow in Santa's wonderland, give Santa your wish list and get your picture taken, and enjoy a pancake breakfast catered by FNG Eats. Breakfast slots are at 8 a.m., 9 a.m., and 10 a.m. Registration is required and admission is \$10 per person. Visit the special events section of www.thekellerpointe.com to register.
- **Dec. 6. Southlake's Breakfast with Santa**, all day at Southlake Town Hall. Make crafts, enjoy breakfast, and bring your wish list for Santa. Breakfast with Santa is also offered December 13. To sign up, call 817-748-8019.
- **Dec. 18. Keller High School Student Council's Informational Fundraiser** from 6-8 p.m. at Christ's Haven for Children Chapel. RSVP to Celena Salinas at 817-247-8905 or celena_salinas@yahoo.com. Find more information at www.kellerisd.net.
- **If you have a community event you'd like to appear in the next newsletter, please email courtney.roberts@house.state.tx.us.**



Giovanni's Journal is an official publication of State Representative Giovanni Capriglione, Texas House of Representatives District 98



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